

App. No. 09/785,942

Amendment dated November 17, 2004

Reply to Office action of August 17, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,694,336 issued to Multer et al. (hereinafter "Multer") in view of "CDO & MAPI Programming with Visual Basic" published by Dave Grudgeiger, October 2000 (hereinafter "Dave"). Claims 1, 10 and 15 have been amended. In light of the amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "a main application in communication with at least one messaging component and a table, the at least one messaging component being configured to pass properties of the message to the main application using a standard interface, the properties including a class identifier associated with the message, the main application being further configured to query the table to identify a message form registered to handle messages associated with the class identifier, the main application being further configured to instantiate the identified message form and pass the message to the instantiated message form."

Neither Multer, Dave, nor any combination thereof teach all of the limitations recited in Applicant's Claim 1. Multer teaches a system for transferring and synchronizing data between two devices. "[T]he system comprises store and forward technology which utilizes...differentencing technology to implement services via a public or private network, such as the Internet." (col. 5, lines 22-25) A system data store includes "a representation of a previous state of application data in an application data store" (Abstract). A difference engine generates "difference information associated with a change to [the] application data store" (Abstract). An application interface interprets "application data for the difference engine" (Abstract).

Dave teaches the Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI). MAPI enables different e-mail applications to work together to distribute mail. Dave teaches a survey of MAPI architecture. "MAPI divides messaging applications into components" (page 4). The components include: "a front end, or client, to manipulate messaging objects; a message store to store messaging objects; a transport provider to move messaging objects from one location to another; and an address book provider to allow storing, retrieving, and looking up user addresses in a directory." (page 2) Dave also teaches how collaboration data objects (CDO) wraps MAPI

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objects. "MAPI objects are COM objects exposed by the MAPI Subsystem and third-party software designed to be MAPI-compliant... CDO is built on top of MAPI...which means that when you instantiate a CDO object, that CDO object is accessing a MAPI object behind the scenes to do the real work." (page 27)

Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable because neither Multer, Dave, nor any combination thereof teach the limitations of Claim 1. Specifically, neither Multer, Dave, nor any combination thereof teach "the main application being further configured to instantiate the identified message form and pass the message to the instantiated message form." Thus, Claim 1 is submitted as allowable for at least the reasons stated above, and notice to that effect is solicited.

Claims 10 and 15, as amended, contain essentially the same limitations as Claim 1. The Office Action rejected Claims 10 and 15 for the same reasons that Claim 1 was rejected. As discussed above, Claim 1 is allowable. Thus, Claims 10 and 15 are allowable for at least the same reasons that Claim 1 is allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.

As discussed above, independent Claims 1, 10 and 15 are allowable. Thus, dependent Claims 2-9, 11-14 and 16-23 are allowable for at least the same reasons that the base claims on which they rely are allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.


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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, pending Claims 1-23 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons stated above and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

MERCHANT & GOULD
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
206.342.6200
JJF/ab


Brett A. Hertzberg
Registration No. 42,660
Direct Line: 206.342.6255

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